

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06262 01 OF 02 100829Z

12

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

AID-05 IO-10 EA-10 MC-02 ACDA-10 ARA-10 /112 W

----- 089200

P 100740Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8611

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NEW DELHI 6262

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: MADRAS HINDU ON INDO-U.S. RELATIONS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI MAY 10TH FROM MADRAS
RPTD TO YOU;

QUOTE:

SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRAS 0612

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: MADRAS HINDU ON INDO-U.S. RELATIONS

FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TEXT FRONT PAGE ARTICLE BY EASWAR
SAGAR APPEARING IN MADRAS HINDU MORNING MAY 10 UNDER HEADING
"DISCREET ATTEMPTS BY INDIA AND U.S. AT RECONCILIATION."

"WASHINGTON, MAY 9. BEHIND ALL THE OBLIQUE AND HARSH WORDS
WORDS OF CRITICISM THAT OFFICIALS OF BOTH INDIA AND THE U.S.
HAVE BEEN HURLING AT EACH OTHER IN RECENT WEEKS, THERE IS
EVIDENCE OF DISCREET ATTEMPTS BY BOTH SIDES TO FIND OUT IF
THERE IS NOT, AFTER ALL, SOME ROOM FOR ADJUSTMENT AND ACCOMMODATION.

KNOWING FOR INSTANCE THAT IN THE WAKE OF THE LOSS OF INDO-CHINA
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TO THE COMMUNISTS, THE U.S. IS ENGAGED IN REASSESSING ITS GLOBAL

POLICIES, SENIOR INDIAN OFFICIALS HAVE ENQUIRE OF SEEMINGLY INTERESTED U.S. OFFICIALS, WHETHER IN THE LISGHTOF THE DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA, THE U.S. MIGHT NOT ALSO WANT TO RE-EXAMINE ITS POLICIES TOWARDS SOUTH ASIA, WHICH IS THE REGION NEXT DOOR.

SPECIFICALLY THESE INDIAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ASKING THEIR COUNTERPARTS HERE WHETHER THE U.S. SHOULD NOT REVISE ITS DECISION TO SELL ARMS TO PAKISTAN AND THUS MEND ITS FENCES WITH A STRATEGICALLY AND POLITICALLY MORE IMPORTANT INDIA. U.S. POLICY-MAKERS WHO HAVE BEEN ASKED THIS QUESTION HAVE SO FAR BEEN NON-COMMITTAL IN THEIR REPLIES. IT IS REALISED, OF COURSE, THAT IF A RE-EXAMINATION OF THE U.S. POLICY IN THE INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT IS INDEED UNDERTAKEN, IT WOULD NECESSARILY DEPEND ON THE U.S.'S ABILITY TO OVERCOME TWO INHIBITING FACTORS: IS THE U.S. READY TO MAKE A 180 DEGREES TURN AND TELL PAKISTAN THAT IT IS WITHDRAWING ITS OFFER OF ARMS? SECONDLY IS THE U.S. EQUALLY WILLING TO GO CONTRARY TO THE WISHES OF CHINA WHICH IS INTERESTED IN KEEPING THE U.S.-PAKISTAN LINKS INTACT, AS A COUNTER TO SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE REGIONS ON ITS PERIPHERY?

PEKING HAS RCENTLY INDICATED TO TH U.S. THAT WHILE IT IS NOT IN FAVOUR OF A CONTINUED U.S. PRESENCE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA, INCLUDING IN COUNTRIES IMMEDIATELY NEXT TO INDO CHINA, LIKE THAILAND, IT WOULD WELCOME CONTINUED U.S. INTEREST AND EXERCISE OF INFLUENCE IN EAST AND SOUTH ASIA, WHERE CHIAN AND THE SOVIET UNION COMPETE FOR SPHERES OF INFLUENCE. HOW CHINA'S WISHES WILL FIGURE IN THE U.S. REASSESSMENT OF POLICIES WILL ALSO BE DETERMINED BY THE SOUNDINGS MR. FORD AND DR. KISSINGER HAVE TAKEN OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. IN THE PAST TWO DAYS MR. FORD WAS HOST TO A PROCESSION OF PRIME MINISTERS-FROM AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND SINGAPORE, ALL OF THEM PRESUMABLY WANTING TO DISCUSS POST INDO-CHINA DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE U.S. PRESIDENT. (ALL THESE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS BRITAIN'S PRIME MINISTER WERE HERE ON THEIR WAY BACK HOME FROM THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE IN JAMAICA LAST WEEK).

SINCE THE FALL OF SAIGON, DR. KISSINGER AS WELL AS OTHER SENIOR UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. OFFICIALS, IN DELIBERATELY TIMED APPEARANCES, HAVE BEEN TALKING OF A POLICY OF SELECTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING ASIA, THOUGH WHAT THIS REALLY MEANS IS NOT YET CLEAR.

WHETHER THE U.S. HAS THE INCLINATION OR THE COMPULSION TO TAKE A NEW LOOK AT SOUTH ASIA, AFTER INDO-CHINA, IS STILL VERY MUCH IN DOUBT. BUT JODGING BY WHAT IT SEEMS WILLING TO DO

NEARER HOME (WHERE READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES, IT SEEMS ON THE VERGE OF MENDING ITS FENCES WITH A CUBA WHICH IT HAS LONG CONSIDERED A THORN ON ITS SIDE), A REVISION OF ITS CURRENT POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH ASIA'S MOST IMPORTANT COUNTRY DOES NOT SEEM COMPLETELY IMPROBABLE.

UNQUOTE: SCHNEIDER

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P 100740Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8612

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 NEW DELHI 6262

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: MADRAS HINDU ON INDO-U.S. RELATIONS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI MAY 10TH FROM MADRAS
RPTD TO YOU;

QUOTE:

"KAUL TO MEET KISSINGER

THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR HERE, WHO HAS NOT MET DR. KISSINGER SINCE FEBRUARY, SAID YESTERDAY THAT HE EXPECTED TO MEET THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE NEXT WEEK, BEFORE HE GOES TO INDIA FOR CONSULTATIONS (THE ARRANGEMENT TO MEET CAME ABOUT QUITE FORTUITOUSLY--THE TWO MEN RAN INTO EACH OTHER AT AN AFRICAN ART EXHIBITION IN TOWN, AND IN THE COURSE OF DIPLOMATIC PLEASANTRIES "WONDERED" WHY THEY HAD NOT MET FOR SO LONG).

OFFICIALS BELOW THE LEVEL OF DR. KISSINGER HAVE TOLD AMBASSADOR KAUL THAT THE U.S. WOULD WELCOME A VISIT FROM THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, MR. Y.B. CHAVAN TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE INDO-U.S. JOINT COMMISSION. MR. KAUL SAYS HE HAS BEEN ASSURED, THAT REPORTS THAT M-48 TANKS AND F-5A PLANES ARE BEING TRANSFERRED TO PAKISTAN BY THIRD COUNTRIES WHICH HAD OBTAINED THEM FROM THE U.S., ARE ERRONEOUS, THAT THE U.S. WOULD NOT DO

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ANYTHING INJURIOUS TO INDIA'S INTEREST, AND THAT A FORD VISIT TO INDIA IS STILL ON THE PRESIDENT'S CALENDAR.

ON THE OTHER HAND THOUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT KNOWS THAT MR. CHAVAN IS MAKING AN OVERNIGHT STOP IN NEW YORK NXT WEEK, ON HIS WAY HOME FROM THE COMMONWEALTH, CONFERENCE AND A CONFERENCE OF INDIAN ENVOYS IN MEXICO CITY (BREAKING A RECENT PRACTICE UNDER WHICH BOTH HE AND MRS. GANDHI HAVE CAREFULLY AVOIDED STOPOVERS IN U.S. TERRITORY ON THEIR VISITS TO THE HEMISPHERE), THERE HAVE SO FAR BEEN NO ATTEMPTS TO EITHER, INVITE HIM TO WASHINGTON, OR OTHERWISE ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH HIM. ACCORDING TO MR. CHAVAN, HIS ONLY OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT IN NEW YORK IS WITH THE U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL, DR. WALDHEIM."EAVES UNQUOTE:SCHENEIDER

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